



Department of Justice

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LINCOLN COUNTY MAN RECEIVES 26 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON

Federal Defendant Previously Pleaded Guilty as Charged

ASHEVILLE, NC - Andrew Douglas Dalzell, 33, of Stanley, North Carolina, (Lincoln County), was sentenced on Friday in U.S. District Court in Asheville to more than 26 years in federal prison announced Edward R. Ryan, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina. Joining the U.S. Attorney in making today's announcement is Buncombe County Sheriff Van Duncan.

Dalzell had previously pleaded guilty to one federal criminal count of using a computer to knowingly attempt to entice an individual, whom he believed was a minor child, to engage in sexual activity. In addition to the prison sentence, Dalzell's prison term will be followed by a lifetime of supervised release. Dalzell was also ordered by the court to register as a sex offender.

According to court documents, beginning on or about July 23, 2008 and continuing through about February 3, 2009, in Buncombe County, NC, Andrew Douglas Dalzell knowingly attempted to entice an individual whom he believed to be less than 18 years old, to engage in unlawful sexual activity, and in so doing, Dalzell used a computer. Dalzell was formally charged in a federal indictment in February 2009, and has been in local federal custody since March 3, 2009.

The case was investigated by detectives of the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office with support provided by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation and FBI. The prosecution was handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Don Gast of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Asheville.

Brought under Project Safe Childhood, the case is part of a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Project Safe Childhood employs federal, state and local resources to locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children in any way, including via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. The government's Project Safe Childhood website is located at www.projectsafchildhood.gov.

Andrew Douglas Dalzell remains in local federal custody in the Western District of North Carolina. The Federal Bureau of Prisons has not yet designated a facility at which he will complete the service of his sentence.

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